

To: House Committee on Local Government

From: Rebecca L. Dean

Re: HB 4105 and HB 4334 Sanctuary Policy Prohibition Act

In Opposition

Dear Committee Members:

I moved to Washtenaw County, Michigan two years ago. I have lived in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, both places that attract residents from all over, including many different countries. Immigrants come here to work, study, live, and contribute to our society.

I would like to express my opposition to House Bills 4105 and 4334. In preventing sanctuary cities, these bills would harm our communities by failing to protect all residents. Permitting local police officers to cooperate with ICE would not only encourage racial profiling, but discourage undocumented community members to report crimes. Evidence shows that cities where police and ICE do not collaborate actually have lower rates of crime for this reason.

Washtenaw County has been a welcoming area for families from all over the U.S. Immigrants contribute to our economy by paying taxes and social security, creating new businesses, and purchasing homes here. Despite the fact that they cannot reap the benefits of many services, undocumented individuals work hard to provide for their families and give back to their city and state. Michigan has historically welcomed more immigrants

The State of Michigan should not withhold funding from cities that choose to welcome immigrants and help them thrive. Cities need this funding to provide indispensable services to all its residents.

Please vote NO on Bills 4105 and 4334. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rebecca L. Dean